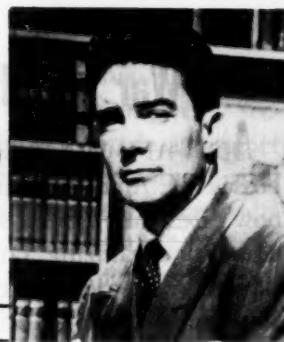


THE

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DAN SMOOT

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HARVEST OF SHAME

Background

Early in the 1930's, communists inspired and instigated the formation of industrial unions in the United States. Prior to that time, unions were organized among workers of special crafts and skills. Hence, in a major industry there might be as many as 50 different unions representing different groups of employees with special skills. The communist idea was to put all workers in a whole industry, skilled and unskilled, in one union so that whoever controlled the union could control the industry.

This was the beginning of the CIO movement; and, for several years, communist dominated or completely controlled most of the CIO industrial unions.

One of the industrial unions set up in the early 1930's by the Trade Union Unity League—"labor arm" of the American communist party—was the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union. The aim of this outfit was to take over the farming industry in America by organizing farm workers.

The communist labor goons moved into the rich vegetable and fruit growing valleys of California during the depression days and started clubbing farm workers into joining their union. Growers organized to resist. The bloody and violent struggle lasted for almost four years, ending in 1935 when the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union died after several of its communist organizers were arrested on charges of criminal syndicalism and sent to prison.

From 1935 to 1941 (about the time of America's entry into World War II) the AFL and the CIO (then rival unions) conducted some intermittent warfare among themselves, trying to organize farm workers. All efforts to unionize agricultural laborers were abandoned during World War II. Union efforts in the farming industry were a holding operation during the postwar period, until December 5, 1955, when the AFL and CIO merged.

THE DAN SMOOT REPORT, a magazine edited and published weekly by Dan Smoot, mailing address P.O. Box 9538, Lakewood Station, Dallas 14, Texas, Telephone TAYlor 4-8683 (Office Address 6441 Gaston Avenue). Subscription rates: \$10.00 a year, \$6.00 for 6 months, \$3.00 for 3 months, \$18.00 for two years. For first class mail \$12.00 a year by airmail (including APO and FPO) \$14.00 a year. Reprints of specific issues: 1 copy for 25¢; 6 for \$1.00; 50 for \$5.50; 100 for \$10.00—each price for bulk mailing to one person.

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War on the Farmers

At an AFL-CIO convention in 1957, the union bosses of America announced that they would now pitch their united strength into a determined effort at organizing farm workers. They moved carefully and deliberately. At an AFL-CIO convention in San Francisco in 1959, the union bosses devised their battle plan. They would send an advance squadron of trained organizers (veterans of bloody labor battles against other industries through the years) into California first. If they could take over farming in that state, they could succeed elsewhere. Their strategy would be to attack California's farmers one by one, waiting in each case for the strategic moment of harvest time—a time when a shut down of only a few days would destroy the strongest and most determined grower.

The AFL-CIO said its battle plan was founded on the union bosses' "faith in the simple proposition that agricultural workers can be organized and can achieve dignity and decency."

This arrogant insult to all the farmers who have tilled the soil and harvested the crops of America for generations was reported either with approval or without commentary in the press of America. The bald statement, by characters like Walter Reuther and James Hoffa and David Dubinsky, that all American farm workers who do not pay dues-money and homage to union bosses are indecent and undignified, went unchallenged.

In April, 1959, Norman Smith (veteran of ruthless and gory campaigns which organized General Motors and Ford for the CIO in the 1930's) was sent to Stockton, California, to lay ground work.

Smith had finished "casing the layout" (if I may be allowed to use the jargon of organized gangsterism) before the critical harvest season of 1960 arrived. On June 10, 1960, the AFL-CIO formally announced the chartering of the Agricultural Workers' Organizing Committee and appointed Norman Smith national director.

Now it was time to call in the muscle men and the enforcers to make the strikes. The first "hit" was against a cherry orchard near Stockton at precisely the moment when the cherries had to be gathered, or the farmer's work and investment for a whole year would be lost. The next target was a pear orchard, then a peach ranch, and so on through the summer. The battle front moved south for the 1960-61 winter harvest of lettuce in the lush Imperial Valley of southern California.

The United Packinghouse Workers (whose top leadership is widely known to be heavily infiltrated by communists) moved in with the AFL-CIO's Agricultural Workers' Organizing Committee to wage war on farm owners and workers of California.

By mid-February, 1961, these two unions had struck 17 major lettuce farms in the Imperial Valley of Southern California, where 80% of the nation's winter lettuce is grown. Blood was flowing again in the lush valley.

On February 9, 1961, a crowd of imported union picketers staged a sit-down demonstration at a labor camp near El Centro. Sheriff's deputies forced them to leave. One week later, the goons struck again with different tactics.

On February 16, 1961, a crowd of "union organizers" swarmed into a Mexican labor camp just outside Brawley, California, kicking, slugging, and clubbing—yelling "join our union." They set fire to one of the housing barracks. Sheriff's deputies arrested 40 of the "demonstrators" and booked them variously on charges of "suspicion" of felonious assault, riot, and attempted arson. Four men were hospitalized.

High Stakes

For the union bosses, generally, organizing American farm workers will mean hundreds of millions of dollars in annual income from dues and fees imposed on the workers.

For the communists who are involved, the stakes are, perhaps, even higher. They know that if the unions take over farming, government will

then have to step in and run American agriculture through union groups. This will accomplish the communist objective of collectivizing American farms and putting workers into "collectives" or "communes" as in the Soviet Union and communist China, each "collective" or "commune" controlled by a "union" apparatus.

Farmers of California have not been sitting on their hands, whining. They know they are doomed if they let these "labor parasites" — as they call the union bosses and their goon squads — take over. Early in 1960, California farmers started organizing.

Various groups of California growers (farm owners and managers) have pooled their efforts to fight the unions. Spokesmen for one such group, Diversified Growers, Inc., warn that California is merely the first target of the AFL-CIO scheme to take over farming throughout the nation:

"Today we are confronted with the spearhead of a movement carefully planned, craftily executed, and calculated to bring all agriculture under the domination of organized labor. California, and specifically Central California, is the first target outlined in the AFL-CIO battle plan."

"All thinking people realize organized labor has no place in agriculture. The tactics which labor leaders employ in (any other) industry would destroy agriculture."

In June, 1960, 14 California Growers' groups united in creating the California Farmers Emergency Food Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to recruit non-union workers who can be rushed to harvest the crops at farms where the 'agitators and labor parasites hit.'

The Federal Government

In this California fight, the federal government has, characteristically, taken the side of the labor goons — not openly and directly in a way that would arouse public indignation, but in a subtle and effective way.

When the growers of California started organizing to resist the unions, Eisenhower's Secretary of Labor, James Mitchell, made a number of widely publicized statements about the pitiful plight of America's migrant workers, bitterly denouncing the growers who hire the workers. Growers are not responsible for the fact that uneducated and unskilled workers follow harvest seasons to do agricultural work. Growers, like all other businessmen, pay the wages they can pay to get what help they need.

James Mitchell's statements were not only distortions of fact; they were useful propaganda weapons for union bosses to use in swaying public sympathy away from the farmers and in support of the union position with regard to organizing migrant workers.

When the battle in California reached the critical stage in early 1961, the Kennedy administration took action which seemed calculated to destroy the farmers. The use of Mexican aliens (called *braceros*) by American farmers is controlled by the federal government under Public Law 78, which was passed (during the World War II period of critical labor shortage) to control the "wetback" problem — Mexicans entering the United States illegally to work as temporary farm laborers. Under Public Law 78, no American farmer can legally employ *braceros* without certification from the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Most of the stoop-labor in California is done by *braceros*. Growers have become dependent on this source of labor; hence, the Department of Agriculture can practically destroy any major California lettuce grower by refusing him a certification to use *braceros*.

After union goons attacked Mexican laborers in their camp near Brawley, California, the U.S. Department of Agriculture summarily notified all growers of cancellation of their certifications to use Mexican workers. The clear inference of the Department's order (see Extension of Remarks of U. S. Congressman Bob Wilson — Re-

publican, California — *Congressional Record Appendix*, February 28, 1961, page 1352) was that it was *growers* who had caused the violence and had violated Public Law 78 by not protecting Mexican aliens from injury! The imported union "organizers" did the clubbing, however; and their objective was to do exactly what the department of Agriculture did for them, after their own violent tactics failed — deny lettuce growers their supply of labor during the critical harvest period!

Communists

Wire services and big-city dailies, sending reporters to interview growers and union officials, have stressed, in their stories, the *difference* between the strife now and the strife of 30 years ago. The difference, according to the press coverage, is that 30 years ago, the union effort was led by communists; but now, it is led by AFL-CIO people, who are not communists! The United Packinghouse Workers, which is deeply involved in the current strife, is known to be infiltrated at the top by communists; but this union is seldom mentioned in the press stories!

Foreign communists also appear to be involved in the California battle. On February 2, 1961, *Inform* (a bulletin — of the International Services of Information Foundation, 3 West Twenty-Third Street, Baltimore 18, Maryland — which has a good network of information sources among anti-communist groups all over the world) reported:

"The average American won't engage in what is called 'stoop labor.'

"Stoop labor is necessary to crops like lettuce.

"To (a) fill the urgent labor need in the U. S. and (b) help relieve dire distress in Mexico, Public Law 78 is on the books.

"Under Public Law 78, 400,000 migrant Mexican farm laborers are permitted to enter the United States . . .

"If these 400,000 are denied . . . their lowly occupations, Mexico will lose \$30 million dollars a year (foreign currency income second in size only to that brought in by tourism), hardship

conditions will prevail among underprivileged Mexicans, and ranchers and growers in the U. S. will go to mechanized crops or fail.

"This is a climate desired by communist agitators because it is one in which U. S. 'capitalists' will be lambasted for a crime they didn't commit. . . .

"If Public Law 78 is wiped off the books; if the 400,000 Mexicans are forbidden . . . to earn their living as provided by that Law, there will be chaos across the border.

"The U. S. will be blamed.

"A communist-favored revolution will flare.

"California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas may be separated from a new Soviet outpost, not by 90 miles of sea, but, along many miles, by an imaginary line only. . . .

"The scheme was outlined in 'an Analysis and Report, with Suggestions' made in 1959 by Louis Krainock, an AFL-CIO analyst, to Norman Smith, then director of a new AFL-CIO union, the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee. Mr. Krainock . . . summarizes his report:

"A campaign of attack on P. L. 78 and related laws is here proposed, plus a campaign of attack on the growers, and consequently on the problems, through various elements of the community. A campaign of education and ally making for 1961 and the future is proposed. . . .

"Now, the Communist Party of Mexico has been called in. Its red and black flag is seen—even in California. . . .

"As we write this report, we learn that a riot is in progress at this moment at the Danny Dannenberg ranch . . . busloads of men from Los Angeles are arriving at various points. . . . We also learn that at a closed meeting held in Cal-exico Tuesday night (31 January), Mexican and U. S. agitators called for the admission of Mexican families and for the abrogation of Public Law 78—a typical Red contradiction for the purpose of stirring real trouble."

The CBS Shame

Communists, and foreign revolutionaries, and union bosses, and imported hoodlums, and officials of the United States government have all

played a part—against the best interests of American farmers and farmworkers and the nation in general—in the current controversies involving migrant farm workers. A sinister part was also played by Edward R. Murrow and the Columbia Broadcasting System.

In 1959, shortly after the AFL-CIO bosses announced their battle plan for sending trained organizers into the field to make farm workers join the union (and thus become “decent and dignified”), CBS sent some of its trained specialists into the same field (but at a different location) to show how indecent and undignified farmers and farmworkers are. CBS, in 1959, started filming a “documentary” on America’s migrant farm workers. A CBS “documentary” is a melange of fact and half-truth and full-fiction, presented as factual reporting for purposes of propaganda in support of some leftwing cause.

It took the CBS almost exactly the same length of time to prepare its “documentary” on farm workers as it took the AFL-CIO boys to get ready for strikes to drive farm workers into the union. The unions struck first, starting the long series of strikes in June, 1960. CBS waited until the time was ripe—when public interest and indignation began to rise. And then, on the evening of November 25, 1960 (again, note the timing: Thanksgiving time, just the time of year when Americans would be most sentimentally affected by any account of want and suffering) CBS presented “Harvest of Shame,” its one-hour-long television network “documentary” on the plight of America’s migrant farm workers.

United States Senator Spessard Holland (new-dealish *Democrat* from Florida) and the American Farm Bureau Federation prepared extensive and carefully documented statements proving that “Harvest of Shame” is a vicious propaganda piece which presents some truth in a heavy mixture of distortion, misrepresentation, “untruths,” “half-truths,” and dishonest inference—a propaganda piece which in Senator Holland’s words, is,

“grossly unfair to both migrant agricultural

workers and their employers. It presents migrant workers in a highly unfavorable light, and their employers as hardhearted exploiters of their labor.”

There couldn’t be a better propaganda piece for the union bosses to use in winning public sympathy for their side in their bloody fight against American farmers. And they used it.

On January 23, 1961, AFL-CIO joined the National Council of Churches, and a few similar outfits, to sponsor a special showing of “Harvest of Shame” to the whole Congress and other governmental officials and dignitaries in Washington.

Edward R. Murrow narrated the “Harvest of Shame.” In March, 1961 (on the day that Murrow’s appointment as Director of the United States Information Agency was confirmed), CBS announced that “Harvest of Shame” had been released for showing in England by the BBC. Senators and Congressmen were indignant that this distortion of social conditions in America should be released for foreign showing as a “Documentary”—with the official head of our government’s foreign “information” agency doing the narrating. Officials of the Kennedy administration expressed displeasure at CBS, and even Edward R. Murrow himself protested.

But CBS made some statements about the necessity of truth prevailing and its unwillingness to censor the “facts” as portrayed in “Harvest of Shame,” and said the film would be available for worldwide showing.

Censorship of Americanism

The most reprehensible thing about CBS (and NBC and ABC television networks, too, they being different from CBS only in degree) is not, however, its pushing its leftwing distortions upon the mass American audience, but its censorship of decent pro-American news-reporting and news analyses.

The Federal government, through the Federal Communications Commission, has given three big television networks a virtual monopoly of the airways. They use that monopoly not just for their selfish business interests and not just to advocate their own leftwing philosophy—but also to keep the constitutionalist, American viewpoint from being presented in news-programs.

Mr. D. B. Lewis (President of the Lewis Food Company, 817 East 18th Street, Los Angeles 21, California, which manufacturers Dr. Ross Dog Food) relates some of the difficulty he has had since 1957 with radio and television station censorship against The Dan Smoot Report, in spite of the fact that the program has been enthusiastically received by the public wherever it has been programmed throughout his west coast market area:

"In 1957, when we started sponsoring The Dan Smoot Report on radio and television, we were using a sizeable advertising budget (about \$20,000. per month) for other programs, on both the Los Angeles and San Francisco ABC TV stations.

"When the Smoot program was offered, it was turned down, I was told, by Mr. John Daly in ABC's eastern office.

"As a result of this kind of news censorship, we cancelled our total advertising budget on the ABC network. They have solicited our account a number of times since. Each time, we point out that when they are willing to accept the Dan Smoot Report broadcast, we will consider advertising on some of their stations.

"The Smoot program was also turned down by CBS and NBC and all the company owned stations to which we offered it.

"The broadcast was finally programmed, in December, 1957, on KRON-TV in San Francisco. But we soon discovered that each week the Smoot broadcast, on KRON, was immediately followed by KRON's 'local news analyst' who spent fifteen minutes criticising the Smoot Report. KRON-TV was requiring Smoot to submit his script three weeks in advance, so that the local 'analyst' would have plenty of time to pick it to pieces; but Smoot was never given an opportunity to answer. In April, 1958, we cancelled the Smoot broadcast on KRON and transferred

it to station KTVU in Oakland, California, where it is still being run in the spring of 1961.

"In Seattle our problem was even worse. The King TV Stations (owned by Mrs. Alexander Scott Bullitt) repeatedly refused to carry The Dan Smoot Report program—not only in Seattle, but on all their stations. We were finally able to cover the Seattle area partially by getting the Smoot broadcast on KTNT-TV in Tacoma.

"In Portland, Oregon, we ran into trouble again and were forced to cancel the program. We were not allowed to advertise on television with the Dan Smoot broadcast in Portland for nearly three years. The Bing Crosby interest finally bought one of the stations, and we were recently able to secure broadcasting time on KPTV.

"On radio: we were on Mutual's Don Lee Network for several years. But when the ABC Radio Network purchased most of the west coast Mutual Network, they immediately cancelled the Smoot Report broadcasting contract we had with the Mutual stations that they (ABC) now controlled. We were able to stay on all the independently-owned stations which had previously affiliated with the Mutual Network in this area. But the new independent station coverage, increased our advertising costs considerably, since each station had to be serviced individually with weekly broadcasting tapes. We considered the expense and effort worthwhile just to keep the program on the air. And, of course, the program had been turned down by both the CBS and NBC networks.

"In Arizona, in 1957, we were unable to buy advertising time with the Smoot program on any television station. So we cancelled our advertising budget in the state.

"Over three years ago, KOOL-TV in Phoenix (a CBS-affiliate) accepted the program, which was most enthusiastically received in that area. Station KOOL gave every indication of being very happy to have the program until January, 1961, when, after running the broadcasts for over three years, KOOL-TV cancelled our contract for the program, without notice. They received a storm of protest from Smoot fans in the area. The Program Director of KOOL, Mr. Bob Davies, answered many of these complaints in writing:

"The Dan Smoot Program was released from

KOOL-TV's program schedule because of certain personal inferences made by Mr. Smoot in past months. As a public servant, KOOL-TV does not side with political issues or controversies of any sort, but strives to present to the public it serves the clear issue both pro and con to all things argumentative.'

"Neither Mr. Smoot's manner, nor his approach to his subject matter, have changed since we started sponsoring his program. During the last four years Mr. Smoot has expressed his honest opinion (which is apparently shared by a large portion of the public) on national affairs.

"The 'personal inferences' which KOOL obviously found objectionable were broadcasts in which Mr. Smoot analyzed the Kennedy Administration's announced programs. According to the station's Program Director, KOOL 'does not side with political issues or controversies' but at the same time strives to present to the public 'the clear issue both pro and con of all things argumentative.' In their censorship of the Dan Smoot program, Station KOOL-TV in Phoenix, has admitted (to my satisfaction, at least) that Mr. Smoot's program is no longer acceptable because he does not treat President Kennedy's program as if it were an untouchable sacred cow.

"To the satisfaction of Mr. Smoot's listening audience in Phoenix, his program was moved to station KTVK. Other stations in the Phoenix area have indicated an interest in programming the broadcast since KOOL found the program 'objectionable.'

"Most of the objections to the program which we have encountered from stations and networks (principally networks) have been based on their assertion that they carry no news or news-analyst programs which do not originate with their station, or which their stations cannot control. This claim is, of course, untrue: unless it can be proven that commentators like George Sokolsky, Drew Pearson, Walter Winchell and Paul Harvey are 'controlled' by the same stations which have refused the Dan Smoot broadcast.

"Following is a list of stations in our market area which have either refused to carry the Dan Smoot broadcast or have cancelled it for reasons similar to the obvious one given by station KOOL in Phoenix.

"Seattle, Washington — Station KING TV & AM, KIRO TV & AM, KOMO TV & AM

"Spokane, Washington—Station KREM TV & AM

"Portland, Oregon—Station KGW TV & AM, KOIN TV & AM, KEX AM

"San Francisco, California—Station KGO TV & AM, KNBC AM, KCBS AM, KRON TV

"Los Angeles, California — Station KRCA TV, KNXT, KABC TV & AM

"San Diego, California — Station KFSD TV, KFMB TV

"Phoenix, Arizona—Station KOOL TV

"I personally feel that an objection should be filed with the Federal Communications Commission against each of these stations, and any other stations in other areas, which exercise censorship of this kind against any program which is dedicated, as is the Dan Smoot program, to defending American freedom as it was set out in the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights. I am confident that a vast majority of discriminating American people will agree with me that any radio or television station, or network, which caters to left-wing commentators, and programs 'entertainment' production based on the 'theatrical' behavior of sick minds, but exercises its censorship power against programs like the Dan Smoot Report should have their broadcasting licenses withdrawn.

"The public—which obviously thinks highly of the Dan Smoot broadcast—should express appreciation to the radio-television stations that do run this kind of Americanism program."

All ABC, CBS, and NBC owned stations, and many of their 'independent' affiliates, are controlled by men who will permit no news-reporting or news-analyses on their stations, except their own controlled left-wing presentations.

Mr. Lloyd E. Richardson, owner of the Laundry Maid Service, Springfield, Missouri, wanted to sponsor my television broadcasts as advertising for his business. On February 7, 1961, he wrote me:

"I have investigated possibility of getting TV time for the purpose of putting your Report on the air. Neither of the stations could give me a

fifteen minute allotment at any time on a regular basis.

"As an interesting side-light, I was informed that they do not carry any commentator that is in any way critical of the present administration. . . ."

I have received other letters like Mr. Richardson's from various parts of the country during the past four years.

In late 1958, a group of patriotic women in New Orleans, Discussions Unlimited, armed with proof that my program had an established and respected history, on leading stations in the country, and had never been threatened with legal action (FCC, or otherwise) set out to find me a sponsor.

They found one: The Louisiana Free Enterprise Association. They raised \$6,000.00 and put it in the bank, to pay for my television broadcasts every week for six months. An official of WWL-TV unofficially told them that the sponsorship and the Smoot broadcast were acceptable, and a contract was drawn. In February, 1959, before the contract was signed, WWL officials looked at an audition film. They wouldn't accept the broadcasts.

The ladies went to other stations. No television station in New Orleans would sell time for my broadcasts, although one is owned by a conserva-

tive friend of mine: he is afraid of the FCC.

On June 1, 1960, Mrs. Daniel Manget, Jr., representing Discussions Unlimited, called on Mr. Crawford Ellis, President (and founder) of the Pan American Life Insurance Company in New Orleans, hoping to interest him in sponsorship of the program. On July 6, 1960, Mr. Ellis wrote Mrs. Manget the following letter:

"In reply to your letter in regard to our good friend Mr. Dan Smoot, would advise that both Mr. Hindermann, Vice President in charge of Public Relations, and I have done everything we could to work out some way to put Dan Smoot on TV through some of our advertising programs but we have been unsuccessful.

"The TV people seem to have an aversion to Mr. Smoot, for what reason we do not know. Mrs. Ellis and I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. and Mrs. Smoot in Dallas, Texas, and we were very much impressed with him. In any event, we learned that he is in disfavor with the TV people and we can do nothing about it.

"I regret that we are unable to help you, but such is the situation."

This censorship of Americanism news-reporting on television, by the television industry itself, is growing in all areas. It is among the most dangerous developments of our time. If it continues, America will, indeed, reap a harvest of shame.

* * * * *

WHO IS DAN SMOOT?

Dan Smoot was born in Missouri. Reared in Texas, he attended SMU in Dallas, taking BA and MA degrees from that university in 1938 and 1940.

In 1941, he joined the faculty at Harvard as a Teaching Fellow in English, doing graduate work for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the field of American Civilization.

In 1942, he took leave of absence from Harvard in order to join the FBI. At the close of the war, he stayed in the FBI, rather than return to Harvard.

He served as an FBI Agent in all parts of the nation, handling all kinds of assignments. But for three and a half years, he worked exclusively on communist investigations in the industrial midwest. For two years following that, he was on FBI headquarters staff in Washington, as an Administrative Assistant to J. Edgar Hoover.

After nine and a half years in the FBI, Smoot resigned to help start the Facts Forum movement in Dallas. As the radio and television commentator for Facts Forum, Smoot, for almost four years spoke to a national audience giving both sides of great controversial issues.

In July, 1955, he resigned and started his own independent program, in order to give only one side — the side that uses fundamental American principles as a yardstick for measuring all important issues.

If you believe that Dan Smoot is providing effective tools for those who want to think and talk and write on the side of freedom, you can help immensely by subscribing, and encouraging others to subscribe, to *The Dan Smoot Report*.